



July 28, 2017

Mr. Lee Rood
Des Moines Register Reader's Watchdog
400 Locust Street
Suite 500
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Mr. Rood:

This is in response to your U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (GSA-2017-001320), dated July 12, 2017, in which you requested the following:

"Under the federal Freedom of Information Act, I would like to see all the comments from the public sent to the GSA regarding the selection of the former downtown YMCA site in Des Moines as the new site for a federal courthouse. Please send me all comments received before the July 17 public hearing."

Enclosed please find the documents responsive to your request. These documents include emails, including attachments, and letters received through July 17, 2017.

In processing your request, we are redacting certain information such as the correspondents' personal email and home addresses, phone numbers and signatures under the sixth statutory exemption under FOIA, which permits an agency to withhold personnel and medical files and similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).

Based on the above information, this constitutes partial denial of your request. As such, you may administratively submit your appeal online via (<https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>) or by writing to U.S. General Services Administration at the address shown below. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 120 days of the date of the response to your request.

U.S. General Services Administration
FOIA Requester Service Center (H1F)
1800 F St. NW, Room 7308
Washington, DC 20405

Your appeal must be in writing and should contain a brief statement of the reasons why the withheld information should be released. Enclose a copy of your initial request and this partial denial. Both the appeal letter and envelope should be marked prominently, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

This completes our action on this request. Should you have any questions, please contact Travis Lewis, FOIA Program Manager at 202-219-3078 or by email at travis.lewis@gsa.gov. You may also contact the GSA FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Audrey Brooks, at 202-205-5912 or by email at audrey.brooks@gsa.gov for any additional assistance and to discuss any aspect of your FOIA request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, or by e-mail at ogis@nara.gov or by telephone at 202-741-5770 or our toll free number free 1-877-684-6448 or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

Travis S. Lewis

FOIA Program Manager

Enclosure